

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, lines 7-14, to read as follows:

The automatic gain control process 400 also provides for continuous compensation of changes in video intensity, such as from intensity changes in the illumination lamp of the sensor. This operation can be accomplished by providing an automatic gain control tab, e.g., a white tab, in the image sensing path of the sensor. For example, ~~a tab covers the~~ in one embodiment, the tab may cover a full width array of the sensor. Monitoring a signal output of the sensor corresponding to the tab can therefore provide an indication as to whether the illumination lamp has dimmed over time. ~~The~~ Alternatively, the tab can be provided in the path of the sensor so as to be only sensed by a single channel of the sensor. The light value determined from the ~~one~~ single channel then can ~~therefore~~ be used as a setpoint for calibrating a gain of the rest of the channels/pixels.